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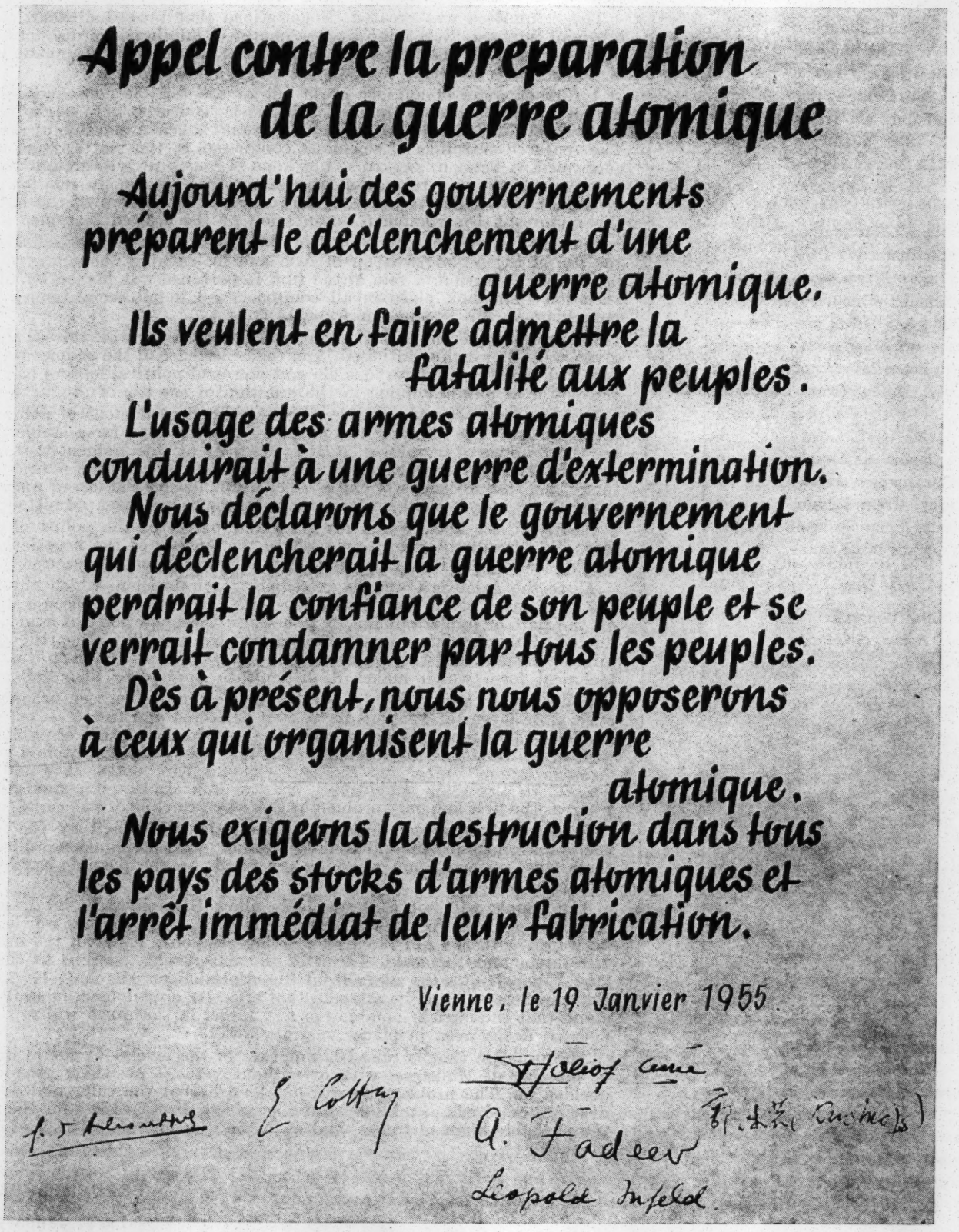

Appel contre la preparation de la guerre atomique

Aujourd'hui des gouvernements préparent le déclenchement d'une guerre atomique.

Ils veulent en faire admettre la fatalité aux peuples.

L'usage des armes atomiques conduirait à une guerre d'extermination.

Nous déclarons que le gouvernement qui déclencherait la guerre atomique perdrait la confiance de son peuple et se verrait condamner par tous les peuples.

Dès à présent, nous nous opposerons à ceux qui organisent la guerre atomique.

Nous exigeons la destruction dans tous les pays des stocks d'armes atomiques et l'arrêt immédiat de leur fabrication.

Vienne, le 19 Janvier 1955

J. Joliot-Curie — E. Cotton — A. Fadeev — 郭沫若 (Kuo Mo-jo) — Leopold Infeld

Facsimile of Appeal against the Preparations for Atomic War in French signed by President and some of the Vice-Presidents of the W.C.P. For translation see P. 3.

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STATEMENT BY PROFESSOR JOLIOT-CURIE

President of the World Council of Peace

We still have present in our hearts the emotion we felt when the extent of the damage wreaked by the atom bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki became known. That was in August 1945, and every year since then we have learned that the effects of the dropping of these two bombs are still coming to light. The list of victims and their sufferings is not closed.

The problem of the banning of weapons of mass destruction had already been raised in 1945, and at their meeting in Moscow in December of that year the Foreign Ministers Mr. Bevin, Mr. Byrnes and Mr. Molotov demanded that a special committee to study this problem should be created alongside the Security Council of the United Nations.

The committee was created. Negotiations that proved difficult were entered into and pursued. New factors arose one after another: the disappearance of the atomic monopoly, the perfecting and testing of thermonuclear bombs thousands of times more powerful than the Hiroshima bomb.

A further wave of anxiety arose out of the terrible consequences of the explosion in the Pacific on March 1, 1954. Fishermen who were *several hundred miles* away from the scene of the explosion were *all* stricken and one of them has died. The repeated warnings of scientists competent in the matter were dramatically confirmed. A new anxiety arose but hope began to revive through the apparition of certain signs of a relaxation of international tension, in relation both to the ending of wars going on and to the successful conclusion of the negotiations in the important Disarmament Commission of the United Nations.

It cannot be denied that in the sum total of factors that succeeded in preventing the use of the atomic weapon in Asia and in bringing about a certain easing of international tension, a role of the first importance was played by the mass consultation that took place in all countries and in all social circles through the launching of the Stockholm Appeal.

Everyone was asked for his opinion; all the questions were raised; all the answers given were thoroughly criticised. And the conscience of the peoples was so strongly revealed that the most responsible and powerful political leaders had to recognise the power of public opinion in the question of the use of atomic weapons.

Disarmament seemed possible; the negotiated settlement of political problems appeared over the horizon; the peoples began to hope for a stable peace and to see the promise of happiness ... It is precisely at this moment that *acts* are committed which put everything back into the melting-pot; the rearmament of Germany, and the decisions of the N.A.T.O. Council on the use of nuclear weapons. As if the principle of the use of these weapons had been admitted.

Clearly, these acts, which are part and parcel of the policy of 'positions of strength', are diametrically opposed to the success of the negotiations going on in the United Nations Organisation and are a threat to peace.

As to the Atlantic Council's extremely grave decision, which implicitly admits the legalisation of the atomic weapon — if there has not yet been a strong reaction on the part of public opinion, it is because the operation has been skilfully conducted. Public opinion was 'softened up' by carefully prepared statements by military leaders and the decisions themselves were presented in a diplomatic and technical form which makes it difficult to appreciate their full consequences.

Today, when a great number of atomic weapons have been produced and when even more powerful weapons have been perfected and tested — with what tragic results — an attempt is being made to override the censure of public opinion and to lead it, by stages, to accept the possible use of tactical atomic weapons, then strategic atom bombs, and finally thermonuclear bombs. It would appear that henceforth discussion should only bear on how nuclear weapons should be used, whereas the first and only problem is the very principle of the use of these weapons.

In short, these recent decisions of the Atlantic Council are the final touch to tne preparations for the unleashing of atomic war, preparations which bear within themselves — and I am weighing my words — the possible annihilation of the human race.

The people will not thus passively allow themselves to be dragged down to collective suicide. For that is what is involved. Once nuclear war began, it would be waged with the full range of existing weapons. Think of the deserts that are Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Think of the unfortunate victims in the Pacific *who were hundreds of miles away* from the explosion on March 1, 1954. Tell yourself that nowhere will you be safe and that effective civil defence is an illusion. Understand that the nuclear bombing of any target in the world will sow immediate or delayed death even in places very far away.

The problem that is raised is not that of the level — General Staff, Minister, or meeting of Ministers, with or without veto — at which atomic war will be decided on. The problem is: will mankind accept the ruins and destruction, the death of hundreds of millions of living beings, wretchedness for the survivors and the probable birth of freaks, and even the possible annihilation of all life on our planet?

FREDERIC JOLIOT-CURIE

Paris, January 13, 1955

APPEAL AGAINST THE PREPARATIONS FOR ATOMIC WAR

Today, certain governments are preparing to let loose atomic war.

They are trying to make the peoples accept it as inevitable.

The use of atomic weapons would result in a war of extermination.

We declare that any government that lets loose atomic war will forfeit the trust of its people and find itself condemned by every people of the world.

Now and in the future, we shall oppose those who organise atomic war.

We demand the destruction of all stocks of atomic weapons wherever they may be and the immediate stopping of their manufacture.

Vienna, January 19, 1955

On January 19, in the course of the closing session of the extended meeting of the Bureau of the World Council of Peace held in Vienna from January 17 to 19, the following speech was delivered by Professor Frédéric Joliot-Curie, President of the World Council of Peace:

The Bureau of the World Council of Peace has taken the decision to launch a great signature campaign to express the universal opposition to the preparations for an atomic war.

This campaign will begin without delay and develop on the basis of an Appeal which you have asked me to draft.

In drawing up the Appeal I have relied on the help and collaboration of a number of you, and together we have taken inspiration from the ideas expressed by the speakers on this rostrum.

The text had to be written in a style devoid of all subtlety, in the simple and commonsense language of men and women who want to live in peace and have confidence in the future of mankind.

Before I read the text, allow me to cite a statement of opposition to the use of the atom bomb that was expressed at the time when that weapon was perfected.

The terms of a report drawn up by a committee of American scientists will always remain fresh in my memory. This was the James Franck Committee which sent a report to the Defence Secretary in Washington on June 11, 1945, two months before Hiroshima. The report opposes any decision to use the atom bomb in war and says that if the United States were to be the first country to use this new means of blind destruction against mankind it would forfeit the support of world public opinion, unleash an arms race and jeopardise the possibility of obtaining an international agreement on the control of these weapons in the future.

This group of scientists showed great clear-sightedness. In the years that followed scientists from various countries strove to warn public opinion of the dangers involved in these weapons. But, while they helped to enlighten public opinion, they were unable alone to create a great movement of censure and opposition to atomic war. It is one of our movement's great merits that, in Stockholm in 1950, it launched a great campaign for the banning of the atom bomb and strict supervision of this measure.

The Stockholm Appeal had very great repercussions and it cannot be denied that it played a role of the first importance in preventing the use of the atom bomb in Asia.

Governments which want to base their international policy on recourse to atomic weapons know that they must reckon with public opinion.

That is why, in organising and preparing for atomic war, they are striving to cover up their operations by skilful manœuvring. The decisions taken by the Atlantic Council last December are one of these manœuvres, and they constitute an act of the utmost gravity which it was our duty to denounce. These governments are trying to direct public attention to the ways of using atomic weapons and to the question of which bodies would be competent to take a decision on the unleashing of atomic war, as if the principle of the use of atomic weapons had been admitted.

We had to bring this new factor out clearly and to make an *immediate* call to the peoples to oppose those who are thus preparing for atomic war. We must not wait until such a war of blind extermination has been unleashed to condemn its authors; those who are preparing for it must be opposed *now*. The basic desire to live and to love one's neighbour demands that we should call for the destruction of stocks of atomic weapons wherever they may be and for the immediate stopping of their manufacture.

It is this desire to live and this love for one's fellow man that will tomorrow animate thousands and thousands of men

The President of the World Council of Peace is the first to sign the Appeal against the preparations for atomic war

and women in every country and every city to go from door to door, from house to house, and in the factories and fields, collecting signatures to our Appeal. Thus will be raised the most powerful of all barriers to atomic war.

Professor Joliot-Curie then read the Appeal and it was adopted unanimously.

The First Signatories of the Vienna Appeal

The Members of the Bureau of the World Council of Peace

Professor Frédéric Joliot-Curie (France), President of the World Council of Peace.
Mr. Gabriel d'Arboussier (French West Africa), Vice-President of the World Council of Peace. Barrister.
Mrs. Eugénie Cotton (France), Vice-President of the World Council of Peace. President of the Women's International Democratic Federation.
Mr. Alexander Fadeyev (U.S.S.R.), Vice-President of the World Council of Peace. Writer.
Professor Leopold Infeld (Poland), Vice-President of the World Council of Peace. Professor of Physics.
Dr. Kuo Mo-jo (China), Vice-President of the World Council of Peace. President of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.
Mr. Jorge Amado (Brazil), writer. President of the Brazilian Writers' Association.
Mr. Emmanuel d'Astier de la Vigerie (France), Deputy. Former Government Minister.
Mr. Laurent Casanova (France), Deputy. Former Government Minister.
Mr. Ilya Ehrenburg (U.S.S.R.), writer. Member of the Supreme Soviet.
Mr. Wilhelm Elfes (Germany), former Mayor of München-Gladbach. President of the Union of Germans for Unity, Peace and Freedom.
Dr. James Endicott (Canada), President of the Canadian Peace Congress.
Mrs. Monica Felton (Great Britain), writer.
Mr. Nazim Hikmet (Turkey), poet.
Professor Joseph Hromadka (Czechoslovakia), Dean of the Comenius Faculty of Evangelical Theology, Prague.
Mr. Alexander Korneichuk (U.S.S.R.), dramatist. Member of the Supreme Soviet.
Professor Jan Mukarowski (Czechoslovakia), Rector of the Charles University in Prague.
Mr. Denis Noel Pritt Q.C. (Great Britain), President of the British Peace Committee.
Mr. Louis Saillant (France), General Secretary of the World Federation of Trade Unions.
Mr. Emilio Sereni (Italy), Senator.
Mrs. Jessie Street (Australia), Australian Representative at the Constituent Assembly of the United Nations Organisation.
Mr. Antoine Tabet (Lebanon), architect.
Mr. Nikolai Tikhonov (U.S.S.R.), poet. President of the Soviet Peace Committee.
Mr. William Wainwright (Great Britain), writer. General Secretary of the British Peace Committee.
Mr. Jean Laffitte (France), writer, General Secretary of the World Council of Peace.
Mrs. Isabelle Blume (Belgium), Former Member of Parliament. Secretary of the World Council of Peace.
Mr. Vincent Duncan Jones (Great Britain), publicist, Secretary of the World Council of Peace.
Mr. Panteleimon Goulaiev (U.S.S.R.), journalist, Secretary of the World Council of Peace.
Mr. Lee I-mang (China), Economist. Member of the First National People's Congress, Secretary of the World Council of Peace.
Mr. Ivor Montagu (Great Britain), Film Director, Secretary of the World Council of Peace.

Members of the World Council of Peace Invited to the Bureau Meeting

Mr. Abdul Rahman Bouchama (Algeria), architect. President of the Algerian Peace Council.
Professor Heinrich Brandweiner (Austria), Professor of International Law. President of the Austrian Peace Council.
Mr. Alberto Cavalcanti (Brazil), Film Director.
Mr. Robert Chambeiron (France), former Deputy.
Mr. Jacques Denis (France), General Secretary of the World Federation of Democratic Youth.
Mr. Ostap Dluski (Poland), Member of Parliament.
Mr. Ambrogio Donini (Italy), Senator.
Mr. Erwin Eckert (Germany), member of the Provincial Parliament of Baden-Württemberg. President of the Peace Committee of the German Federal Republic.
Mr. Ernst Fischer (Austria), writer. Former Government Minister.
Mr. Nino Fogliaresi (Italy), teacher.
The Rev. Ragnar Forbeck (Norway), First Chaplain of Oslo Cathedral.
Mr. Sergei Gerassimov (U.S.S.R.), Film Director. Member of the Supreme Soviet.
Mr. Joris Ivens (Netherlands), Film Director.
Professor Felix Iversen (Finland), Vice-President of the World Federation of United Nations Associations.
Mr. Liu Kuan I (China), General Secretary of the Chinese People's Committee for the Defence of World Peace.
Mr. Liu Chang-sheng (China), Vice-President of the All China Federation of Trade Unions.
Mr. Clarenzo Menotti (Italy), former Senator.
Mr. V. Parameswaran (India), Secretary of the All India Peace Council.
Mr. Kinkazu Saionji (Japan), former Senator. Director of the daily *Nichiyo Shinbun*.
Mr. Erwin Scharf (Austria), writer. President of the Left Socialist Workers' Party.
Mr. Zekeria Sertel (Turkey), writer. Journalist.
Mr. Valentin Sorokin (U.S.S.R.), economist.
Pandit Sunderlal (India), leading follower of Gandhi. Writer.
Mr. Sorin Toma (Rumania), journalist.
Mr. Alfredo Varela (Argentina), writer.
Mr. Fernand Vigne (France), General Secretary of the French National Peace Council.
Mr. Paul Wandel (Germany), Member of Parliament. Former Government Minister.
Mr. Heinz Willman (Germany), General Secretary of the German Peace Council.
Mr. Jorge Zalamea (Colombia), writer. Former Government Minister.

Persons Invited to the Bureau Meeting

Mr. Heinz Altschul (Austria), General Secretary of the Austrian Peace Council.
Mrs. Janos Bugar (Hungary), General Secretary of the Hungarian Peace Council.
Mr. Nestor Grancelli Cha (Argentina), barrister. Former President of the Argentine University Federation.
Mrs. Rosy Hollender (Belgium), Secretary of the Belgian Union for the Defence of Peace.
Mr. Isa Ibrahim (Indonesia), Secretary of the Indonesian Peace Committee.
Mr. Georgi Pirinski (Bulgaria), Vice-President of the Bulgarian Peace Committee.
Mr. Anton Strand (Sweden), Secretary of the Swedish Peace Committee.
Mr. Suroso (Indonesia), General Secretary of the Indonesian Peace Committee.
Mr. Volodia Teitelboim (Chile), writer.
Mr. Luis Vidales (Colombia), writer.
Mrs. Miriam Vire-Tuominen (Finland), Secretary of the Finnish Peace Committee.
Mr. Jacob Wolf (Netherlands), journalist.
Professor Kaoru Yasui (Japan), Professor of International Law at Hosei and Kanagwa Universities. General Secretary of the National Council against the A and H Bombs.

Representatives of International Organisations

Mr. Bruno Bernini, President of the World Federation of Democratic Youth.
Mr. Renato Bertolini, Secretary of the International Federation of Resistance Fighters.
Mr. Paul Delanoue, General Secretary of the World Federation of Teachers' Unions.
Mr. Giuseppe Grassi, Secretary of the World Federation of Trade Unions.
Mrs. Zoia Ivanova, Secretary of the Women's International Democratic Federation.
Mrs. Molly Mandell, Secretary of the Women's International Democratic Federation.
Mrs. Hilda Neumann, member of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers.
Mr. Hsieh Pang-ting, Vice-President of the International Union of Students.
Mr. Dimitri Taptikov, member of the World Federation of Teachers' Unions.

Certain Members of the World Council of Peace and Public Figures

to whom the text ot the Appeal was communicated as soon as it had been approved by the Bureau gave it their support immediately.

They are:

Mr. Riccardo Lombardi (Italy), Member of Parliament. Former Government Minister. Secretary of the World Council of Peace.
Baron Antoine Allard (Belgium), business-man.
Professor Max Cosyns (Belgium), physicist.
Mrs. Yves Farge (France), member of the Presiding Committee of the French Peace Movement.
Mr. Jaroslaw Iwaszkiewicz (Poland), writer. President of the Polish Peace Committee.
Mr. Leon Kruczkowski (Poland), President of the Polish Writers' Association.
Mr. Victor Klosiewicz (Poland), President of the Central Council of Trade Unions.
Mrs. Elizabeth Thamm (Sweden), leading member of the Swedish women's movement.

The extended meeting of the Bureau of the World Council of Peace was held in Vienna on January 17, 18 and 19 1955.

The following two points were on the agenda:

1) The tasks of the Peace Movement with relation to the N.A.T.O. Council decision on the use of atomic weapons.

2) The continued development of the struggle of all the forces for peace against the ratification and implementation of the Paris Agreements for the revival of German militarism.

Professor Frédéric Joliot-Curie was in the chair and the meeting was attended by 80 persons representing 32 countries from every continent.

On January 18 and 19 the sessions were open to the representatives of the press.

In addition to the Appeal against the preparations for atomic war — which is given on another page — the Bureau adopted a Declaration and an Appeal to the peoples of Europe.

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DECLARATION OF THE BUREAU OF THE WORLD COUNCIL OF PEACE

At the outset of 1955, two threats to the peace of the world have become definite: the remilitarisation of Germany and the steps taken to prepare and justify atomic war. These threats come just at the moment when new prospects of peace are opening before the peoples. It is now a matter of the acts of responsible governments, and no longer only the declarations of politicians and generals.

These acts deliberately flout the desires of the peoples concerned and world opinion.

The remilitarisation of Germany, and the obstacles placed by S.E.A.T.O. in the way of a peaceful solution of the problems of Asia, underline the exceptional gravity of the measures adopted by the Council of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation.

These measures are designed to regularise atomic war, which has been condemned by the conscience of mankind and is contrary to international law, and persuade public opinion to accept it as a necessity. They can lead to the automatic unleashing of atomic war in Asia as well as in Europe. From now on, they threaten with this peril every country on every continent.

The remilitarisation of Germany and the regularisation of atomic war are closely linked. They are the fruits of a single policy founded on the division of the world into two blocs, the drive for positions of strength and recourse to war in prosecuting international differences.

The peoples know from experience that this policy can lead only to economic chaos, poverty and war. The World Peace Movement calls upon them to appreciate the magnitude of the new dangers and to avert them by all means in their power.

The concerted action of the peoples can end the policy of blocs. It can oblige the governments to negotiate, to disarm and to use nuclear energy solely for peaceful purposes.

Mankind will not passively allow itself to be led toward the disasters of atomic war.

The problem is not to calculate at what staff or government level atomic war may be decided on, or to draw distinctions between so called tactical and strategic weapons. The task is to reject the destruction, oppression and suffering that it entails, to ensure to all the peoples of the world their independence and the right to develop their own wealth, and take together the path towards security and prosperity.

It is to fulfil this task that the appeal to maintain the struggle against the remilitarisation of Germany and the appeal to organise a great signature campaign to stop the use of atomic weapons have been issued.

It is to this same end that the call has been issued for a great World Assembly that on May 22nd, 1955, in Helsinki shall bring together representatives of all tendencies and organisations for peace.

Vienna, January 19, 1955

APPEAL TO THE PEOPLES OF EUROPE

The peoples of Europe refuse to accept the Wehrmacht.

They oppose the revival — a bare ten years after the end of the war — of the army which brought death and destruction down upon all Europe.

They are revolted by the idea that atomic weapons should be put at the disposal of Hitler's former generals.

The peoples will never accept this crime.

The ratification of the Wehrmacht treaties is far from being achieved.

In London and Paris, when the parliaments voted on the ratification, not even one half the members supported them. The governments, like the parliaments, have been obliged openly to acknowledge the hostility of the peoples concerned. But they are resolved to override the opposition of the peoples of Europe, and in particular the growing opposition of the German people themselves.

The peoples cannot be bound by decisions adopted by parliaments against their will.

Today, the governments that signed the London and Paris agreements can no longer cover up the tragic consequences of the creation of a new Wehrmacht: the remilitarisation of Western Germany would result in the setting up of armed forces in Eastern Germany. It would speed up the arms race. It would make the peaceful reunification of Germany impossible for years to come and would prevent any possibility of the collective organisation of European security.

The World Council of Peace calls on the men and women of every country to put all their strength, all their determination and all their courage into preventing the ratification and implementation of the London and Paris agreements.

It calls on all the men and women who have been waging such a magnificent struggle against the rearmament of Germany, and on all those also who are today becoming aware of the imminent danger which it involves, to join and multiply their efforts to oppose the revival of German militarism and to organise the security of Europe with participation of a peace-loving Germany.

Europe, supported by all the peoples of the world, will not let a new Wehrmacht be thrust upon her.

Vienna, January 19, 1955

Pandit Sundarlal delivering the closing speech.

Preparing the World Assembly

A Regional Peace Council in Britain Starts its Preparations

Recently the Surrey Peace Council sent out to all local peace councils and groups in Surrey a detailed plan for the campaign for the World Assembly. (Surrey is a county with a population of just over a million on the southern edge of London.) The Council called upon all local councils in the region to hold meetings before the end of 1954 to discuss these plans.

The different proposals are divided up into periods of action — some to be put into effect before the end of January, these to be followed by others in later months. Included also are proposals for action after the World Assembly has taken place.

Among the proposals are:

In each locality an approach by the peace council to local organisations, M.Ps.. the Mayor and other public figures.

Each local peace council to prepare a peace policy declaration.

Consistent efforts by personal calls and conversations to ensure that the Assembly is discussed in other organisations — for example, trade union and Labour Party branches.

Planned and consistent efforts to get local peace council speakers invited to all types of local organisation.

Invitation meetings of local peace councils to which guests from many other organisations and groups, and well-known individuals, are invited to discuss the World Assembly.

Each local council to organise at least one widely sponsored public meeting for the selection and endorsement of representatives from the area.

A regular information bulletin to be published by the Surrey Peace Council.

Every activity to be made the occasion of raising funds for the campaign, for sending delegates and to pay for the Assembly.

All these activities to be closely linked with the continuous work of the peace councils against German rearmament, for European unity, against atomic weapons.

Appeal of the All India Peace Congress

The All India Peace Congress held in Madras on December 30 — January 2 adopted a resolution on the preparations for the World Assembly of Representatives of the Forces of Peace which says:

'Fourteen hundred delegates representing different walks of life, assembled at the All India Congress for Peace and Asian Solidarity, heartily welcome the decision adopted by the World Council of Peace at its meeting in Stockholm on November 18—21, 1954 to hold a World Assembly for Peace "including representatives of all the forces and tendencies that make for peace . . ."

'Congress believes that "the mighty movement of all peoples can prevent the division of the world into opposite blocs, prevent the rebirth of the armies that have been the source of so much misery and mourning and free mankind from the crushing cost of arms budgets. Only such a mighty movement can ensure the welfare, security and independence of all nations."

'Congress is confident that all Peace Committees will start preparations for the success of the World Assembly right now by electing delegations, by raising funds for sending delegates to this great Assembly and popularising the Appeal of the World Council of Peace.'

German Federal Republic

The Presiding Committee of the Peace Committee of the German Federal Republic met in Düsseldorf on January 9. The session was attended by guests from all parts of Germany.

The Presiding Committee welcomed the appeal launched by the World Council of Peace for a great World Assembly of Representatives of the Forces of Peace. In preparation for the Assembly meetings and conferences are being organised at many places in the Federal Republic. The West German Peace Movement will be represented by a strong delegation at the German Congress for Security and Peace to be held in Leipzig in mid-April.

Norway

The Rev. Ragnar Forbeck, First Chaplain of Oslo Cathedral, member of the World Council of Peace, said in an interview:

'It gives me particular joy to see so many of my colleagues from both the East and the West playing an active part in the work of the World Council of Peace. But it is desirable that the leaders of the different Churches should — as Pastor Niemöller has done — take a much greater part in work for peace. There is no doubt that the great World Assembly will be of vital importance for the strengthening and broadening of the whole Peace Movement.

'My wish for the New Year is this: that Christians should play a much more active part in work for peace.'

*

Chile

In the course of the Second National Assembly of the Chilean Peace Movement — that is, the session of the National Peace Council — held in Santiago de Chile on December 11 and 12, 1954, Mr. Juan Acevedo M.P., of the Chilean Labour Party, made a special intervention on the preparations for the World Assembly. He pointed out how important it was for Chile and emphasised the varied forms of activity that must be used in the great campaign for electing the authentic representatives of all sections of the nation, whether they belong to the Peace Movement or not.

The World Federation of Trade Unions:

'The struggle for peace, our essential task'

The texts adopted by the General Council of the World Federation of Trade Unions at its meeting in Warsaw, December 9-14, 1954 underline the great importance of action by workers in the struggle for peace.

The Council issued an appeal against the Paris Agreements which says:

'Workers of Germany,

'We urge you to let nothing divide you. Strengthen your unity and fight like brothers against the revival of militarism in your country, against the Paris Agreements, for the peaceful and democratic unification of your country. Do not allow the Paris Agreements to be ratified.

'Workers of France,

'Today, come out with all your strength against the ratification of the Paris Agreements. Do not allow the menace of German divisions, this time armed with atomic guns, to rise again on your Eastern frontier.

'Workers of Great Britain,

'Let no one deceive you. Do not allow German militarists again to threaten British towns with the fate of Coventry.

'Workers of the whole of Europe,

'Remember your dead, remember your bomb-torn cities, the torture chambers, the crematoria. Do not allow the murderers to be rearmed and to be given atomic weapons.'

We take the following passage from the General Resolution:

'In view of the present international situation, the General Council of the W.F.T.U. considers the struggle for peace in Europe, in Asia and throughout the world to be the essential and urgent task of the workers of all countries.

'The General Council of the W.F.T.U. therefore urges trade union organisations:

— to bring the workers into widespread, united, militant action against the Paris Agreements, against the revival of German militarism, and for negotiation, collective security, disarmament and peace;

— to call on the workers and their trade union organisations to support more actively, and be the foremost champions of, the activity and campaigns of the World Peace Movement;

— to call on them to give the fullest help in ensuring the success of the World Assembly for Peace to be held in 1955.'

In the Name of 140 Million Women . . .

In a statement issued by its Secretariat, the Women's International Democratic Federation 'warmly approves, in the name of 140 million women from 66 countries, all the decisions of the World Council of Peace adopted at its last session in Stockholm.

'The Women's International Democratic Federation greets the initiative of the World Council of Peace in calling a World Assembly of Representatives of the Peace Forces and will contribute by every means to its realisation.'

Poland

An enlarged meeting of the Presiding Committee of the Polish Peace Movement held in Warsaw in December adopted a resolution which says:

'The Polish Peace Committee wishes to emphasise strongly that the ratification of the Paris Agreements is not yet an accomplished fact.

'Indeed, when the real content and the aims of these agreements become clear to the masses of the people in Western Europe, the movement of resistance to ratification and to the remilitarisation of West Germany will become stronger and stronger, especially in France and in West Germany itself. More and more people are coming to understand that, by perpetuating the division of Germany, ratification of the Paris Agreements would make German reunification impossible and any negotiation on the German question useless. More and more people are coming to understand the falsity of the statement that the division of Europe into two blocs can serve the cause of peace and disarmament. More and more people are coming to understand that the real aim of the Paris Agreements, as Churchill admitted in his notorious statement, is to rearm the Hitlerite criminals.

'The Polish people declare their complete solidarity with the peoples of Western Europe who are fighting for the common cause of all nations.

'Reflecting the thoughts and feelings of all Polish patriots, the Polish Peace Committee sends particularly warm greetings to our French friends who made a great contribution to the rejection of E.D.C. and who today are once again uniting, regardless of their political and social views, to defend France's vital interests and the cause of world peace . . .'

France: No Let-up in Action

against London and Paris Agreements

There has been no let-up in the French people's action against German rearmament since the National Assembly ratified the London and Paris Agreements by 287 votes to 260 with 74 abstentions. They know that, if ratified by all the European Parliaments, these agreements would perhaps result in war — and not just any war, but an atomic war — and would in any case unleash an armaments race.

But they also know that it is still possible to bring this disastrous policy to nought.

The agreements are now going to be examined by the Council of the Republic. If it were to reject them or even to propose an amendment the National Assembly would have to examine them again. The time thus gained would be in favour of those who are working for peace.

The members of the Council of the Republic are elected in a different way from those of the National Assembly, namely, by an electoral college which is composed of all the Deputies and General Councillors, and by a big proportion of the municipal councillors and senatorial delegates who are nominated by the municipal councils on the basis of lists drawn up by the political parties.

So, after the vote in the National Assembly, the Movement's action has been concentrated on the Senators — that is, the members of the Council of the Republic — and their electors. The nation's representatives are being made to face up to their responsibilities, while the work of informing the people goes on. Already 4,500,000 signatures against German rearmament and for immediate negotiations have been collected, and district meetings and meetings of elected representatives are being held.

The Departmental Peace Councils and the local Peace Committees have warmly congratulated the Deputies who voted against the agreements and condemned those who voted for. The senators are being informed of the people's wishes by letters and reports of the actions undertaken.

The Presiding Committee of the Peace Movement has sent a letter to all the Mayors of France asking them, in their position as first municipal magistrate, to approach the senators and to be the spokesmen of public opinion in their localities.

Many mayors have already made their position clear. One hundred mayors of the Lot Department, the mayors of three cantons in the Department of Corrèze, and 118 mayors of the Department of Lot-et-Garonne, of all parties, have asked the senators 'respectfully but urgently' not to vote for the agreements. In the Ain Department General Councillors (the French equivalent of the County councillors in Great Britain) of various political parties have issued a joint appeal, as have also the secretaries of the Salernes branches of the Socialist and Communist parties in the Department of Var.

Already hundreds of municipal councils have adopted motions on this subject.

In one place Protestants have appealed to a senator belonging to the Popular Republican Party (M.R.P.) and in another teachers approached their Socialist senator.

So the work done in relation to Members of Parliament, which had such an enormous effect, is beginning again, without hesitation and without discouragement, in relation to members of the Senate.

The workers, who played such an important role in the first battle against the agreements (in Paris alone there were 2,000 deputations from the factories and 220 stoppages of work), are going into action once again.

In the Department of Moselle the workers will approach the 1,400 municipal councillors who themselves work in the factories.

In the course of these actions many peace committees are being set up.

Denmark

A group of well-known Social Democrats have issued an appeal for which signatures are now being collected.

The appeal states:

'The West German Social Democratic Party has called on all European Social Democrats to prevent the rearmament of Western Germany and its incorporation in N.A.T.O. before the opening of four power negotiations on the unification of Germany.

'We must support them in this call by demanding the resumption of negotiations before the London and Paris Agreements are finally ratified . . .'

Sweden

A meeting of the Stadsgarden port workers of Stockholm, all members of the Swedish Railway Trade Union Federation, adopted the following resolution:

'We support the demand for a settlement of the German question through Four Power negotiations instead of the ratification of the London and Paris Agreements. Negotiations for the relaxation of international tension and collective security in Europe is the way to lasting peace, and not the formation of blocs and rearmament.'

U.S.A.

According to a news item from Dayton (Ohio) Major K.E. Wallach of the United States Army Reserve has let it be known that he has returned to the French ambassador the Croix de Guerre he won during the Second World War for handing over to the French army French flags captured by Hitler's troops. This is Major Wallach's way of protesting at the French National Assembly's vote in favour of West German rearmament. If France approves the rearmament of West Germany, said Major Wallach, it will be a disaster for Frenchmen.

Argentine

In Argentine, deputations went to the French Embassy to demonstrate their opposition to the ratification of the London and Paris Agreements and many telegrams to the same effect were sent to France. To stimulate this campaign a special committee has been set up. The Jewish Peace Committee has also conducted important activities: many letters, signed by more than, 6,000 people, were sent to France. An important association, the D.A.I.A. (Argentine Federation of Jewish Associations), which has no connection with the Peace Movement, has condemned the revival of German militarism.

Uruguay

Mr. Jose Luis Massera, General Secretary of the Uruguayan Peace Council, has published an article firmly condemning the rearmament of West Germany.

Mr. Massera emphasises that the revival of German militarism gives rise to a growing war danger and calls on all defenders of peace to prepare for the World Assembly of Representatives of the Forces of Peace.

Canada

The Canadian Women's Congress has issued an appeal to all Canadian women to resolutely oppose the setting up of a new Wehrmacht.

Belgium

A great number of meetings and demonstrations are being organised in Belgium and their success shows the breadth of the national movement against German rearmament.

Street meetings with the collection of signatures took place in Binche, Couillet and Marcinelle on December 22 and 23. Mrs. Isabelle Blume, Secretary of the World Council of Peace, spoke at the meetings.

On January 10 a meeting organised by the Liaison Committee for all the country's peace organisations was held in the biggest hall in Brussels. There were four speakers: Mr. Ben Parkin, British Labour M. P.; Mr. Jacques Leman of the National Council of the French Peace Movement; Mr. André Blumel, on behalf of the Conference of European Jews against German rearmament; and Professor Jacinto Cardona of Rome University. Those present passed a motion to Parliament condemning the London and Paris Agreements.

A similar meeting was held in Liège on January 11.

The Progressive Women's Union is collecting signatures against the ratification of the agreements.

A resolution of support for the West German trade unions which have condemned remilitarisation was unanimously adopted at a meeting of the trade unions of St. Vith which are affiliated to the Belgian General Confederation of Labour. In Heppen, trade unionists asked their Trade Union Committee to take a stand against West German rearmament and to ask the leadership of the Belgian General Confederation of Labour to do likewise.

Holland

A conference on the German question which took place in Amsterdam on December 19, 1954 was attended by 400 people of various political standpoints.

Mrs. M. D. Minnaert-Coelingh and Mr. H. P. Langendijk made speeches which were followed by a discussion in which more than 40 people took part.

All the participants agreed on the danger to Holland's security involved in the Paris Agreements. The Conference unanimously adopted the text of a telegram urgently demanding the rejection of the Paris Agreements which is to be sent to both Houses of Parliament.

In addition, the Conference issued an appeal to the Dutch people warning them of the danger of the Paris Agreements and calling upon them to oppose these agreements strenuously. The organisation of a national petition opposing the revival of the Wehrmacht was also agreed.

This petition has already been signed by more than 75,000 people.

The Peace Movement in the Soviet Union

II (1)

In all its activities the Soviet Peace Committee works through local Peace Committees at the level of the Republics and regions. These committees are elected by local peace conferences and also have a broadly representative character. Thus, for example, the Moscow Committee, whose Chairman is Academician Ivan Petrovsky, Rector of Moscow University, includes the following among its members: Mr. A. Leontiev, bricklayer; Mr. S. Tulikov, composer; Miss M. Grafova, weaver; and Miss S. Poduzdova, athlete. The Leningrad Committee has Mr. P. Kovalev, an engineer, as its Chairman and includes among its members Academicians Bykov and Nalivkin; Mr. Filipov, building worker; Mr. Soloviov-Sedoi, composer; Mr. Fedossiev, engineering worker; and Mr. Cherkassov, artist.

The representative nature of the local Peace Committees makes it easier to work among all sections of the people. During the signature campaign for a Five Power Peace Pact the Briansk Regional Peace Committee called 3,689 meetings of different kinds, the Tula Regional Committee 4,487 and that of Sverdlovsk 11,820. The Tatar Peace Committee organised 1,608 meetings throughout the Republic to report the decisions of the Budapest session of the World Council of Peace.

To give some idea of the intensive and varied activity of a local Peace Committee in the Soviet Union we may quote the example of the Leningrad Committee.

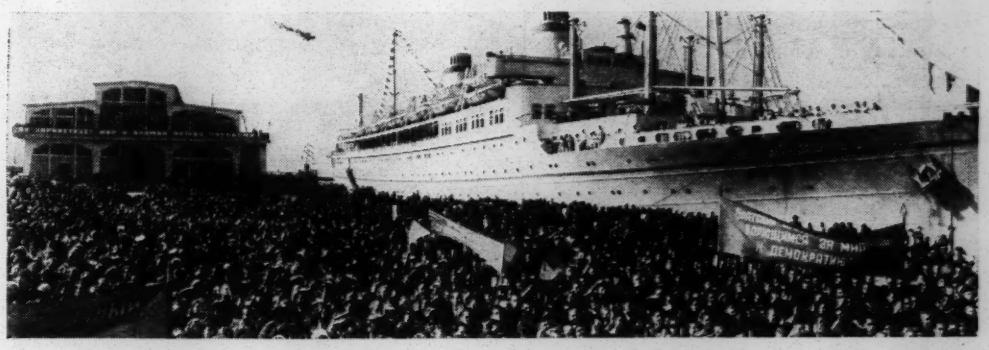
During 1954 the Leningrad Committee received 50 foreign delegations visiting the city. In particular, the arrival of the 800 participants in the 'Peace Cruise' on the Polish liner, the *S.S. Batory*, last autumn meant a great deal of work for the Committee. It helped the delegates in their study of the various aspects of life in Leningrad and organised a number of friendly meetings between them and the people of the city.

A film was made on the visit of the 'Peace Cruise' to the Soviet Union and it was shown during the Stockholm session of the World Council of Peace.

The Leningrad Committee also organised a number of evening meetings, exhibitions and other events with a view to strengthening the friendly relations between the peoples. We may cite as examples the German-Soviet and the Sino-Soviet evenings, the Polish-Soviet Friendship Month, and so on.

The members of the Committee give regular lectures in factories, offices, clubs, the Pioneer Palaces and the Parks of Culture and take part in other peace work. In the last five years one of the members, Mr. G. Dubinin, who is a tracer in the *Krassny Vyboryets* factory, has given 750 reports on various problems of the struggle for peace and 200,000 people have heard him lecture. He carries on a regular personal correspondence with members of the Peace Movement in various countries and often treats the subject of peace in the press and on the radio.

The members of the Committee have several times gone on delegations abroad with other members of the Peace Movement.



The arrival of the Peace Cruise in Leningrad in September 1954. An enthusiastic crowd welcomes the S. S. Batory into port.

After a visit to India, Mr. Nikolai Cherkassov published a book of travel impressions and gave lectures in Leningrad. Mr. Bykov and Mr. Kovalev visited Finland. Mrs. Materikova, a worker in the *Rabotchi* textile factory, went on a women's delegation to Israel.

The activities of the other local Peace Committees, including those of the most distant regions, are similar to those of the Leningrad Committee. For example, last year the Kazakh Committee organised meetings for the anniversary of the liberation of Rumania, and Soviet-Bulgarian and Sino-Soviet friendship evenings. Mr. D. Khodjiev, Chairman of the Uzbek Committee, took part in the Peace Congress of the Asian and Pacific Regions, while Mrs. Malinina, a collective farm worker and Vice-Chairman of the Kostroma Committee, went to China and to the European People's Democracies.

(To be continued)

(1) See last issue.

JAPAN • Statement by Japanese Peace Committee on the N.A.T.O. Decisions

On December 20 the Secretariat of the Japanese Peace Committee published a statement protesting against the N.A.T.O. decisions on the use of atomic weapons. Here are some extracts this from this statement:

'In December the N.A.T.O. Council gave the Supreme Commander of the N.A.T.O. forces the power to supply the N.A.T.O. army with atomic weapons.

'This is a frenzied challenge to mankind and an act which tramples world opinion underfoot.

'As a result of this decision the rearmament of Japan and S.E.A.T.O. are now linked up with the danger of atomic war . . .

'The forces of peace are stronger than the forces of war, yet the latter can commit such vile acts.

'We call on all men and women in our country to unite in the sacred cause of peace in order to save mankind from total destruction.'

Congress for Banning Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs

The Japanese National Congress for the Banning of the Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs, which has just been held in Tokyo, adopted resolutions against the danger of atomic war resulting from the decisions of the N.A.T.O. Council and for the holding of a World Meeting for the banning of the A and H bombs. The number of signatures handed in to the National Council represents about 40 per cent of the population (all who can express their will are asked to sign). The Congress was attended by 300 representatives from all parts of Japan and by eminent figures including Mr. Tetsu Katayama, former Prime Minister, Socialist Party M.P., Mrs. Tomi Kora, member of the House of Councillors, and others.

One of the resolutions says:

'We express our anger at the fact that certain forces in the world do not hesitate to declare their readiness to use atomic weapons. In order to consolidate our movement for the banning of atomic war, leading figures in government and other circles throughout the world will be invited to take part in the World Meeting for the banning of atomic weapons.'

Congress stressed that the Japanese movement must make every effort to get world opinion to oppose atomic war. It was proposed to invite delegations from abroad and to send representatives to other countries, to international conferences in particular.

Congress expressed its satisfaction that an International Commission of Doctors is going to Japan in February to investigate the casualties suffered by the Japanese people as a result of atomic bombing and the testing of thermonuclear weapons.

Message of a Group of Mexican Peasants

A group of peasants of Torreon Coahuila (a part of Mexico where the peasants have received land through the agrarian reform) have issued a Christmas and New Year Message which says in part:

'The news which has recently appeared in the press fills us with alarm, especially that of the agreement to use atomic and thermonuclear weapons which has been reached by Western statesmen . . .

'An atomic war could not be limited to one continent. It would affect the entire world . . .'

The message ends by demanding the banning of weapons of mass destruction.

The Peoples the

This poster was published by the Shinjyuku section of the National Council against the A and H bombs. Shinjyuku is an important district of Tokio with a population of 250,000 inhabitants. The poster bears this appeal: 'Save the lives and happiness of mankind!', together with the signatures of the Shinjyuku section of the Movement for the Banning of the A and H bombs, of the Doctors', Pharmacists' and Lawyers' Associations. the local section of the General Council of Trade Unions, the Federation of Buddhists, the Council of Women's Organisations, the Federation of Merchants, the Federations of Parent-Teachers' Associations of Middle and Primary Schools, the Chamber of Commerce and the Congress of Intellectuals.

ARGENTINE

The Argentine Federation of Agricultural Cooperatives, a strong association which includes all the farming cooperatives in Argentine, has just informed the Committee of Doctors against the use of of atomic and hydrogen bombs that it agrees with the aims of their campaign and has decided to support it. Not long before, the annual general meeting of the Argentine Agrarian Federation had expressed the wish that weapons of mass destruction should be banned. That these two organisations should have taken up this position shows the unanimous feeling of Argentine farmers on this question.

The doctors of Buenos Aires have set up committees which approach political, scientific, trade union and other figures, and the leaders of mass organisations, asking for their collaboration in this struggle to protect mankind. They have also sent an open letter to Argentine Catholics recalling the position taken up by the Pope and inviting them to take part in the campaign. This letter has been reproduced as a leaflet.

On learning that a United States ice-breaker was making for Argentine territory in the Antarctic, with the obvious intention of preparing for H-bomb tests, the doctors of San Fernando (the province of Buenos Aires) issued a moving appeal to the people asking them to demonstrate publicly their opposition to this move.

ITALY • 'German rearmament and atomic massacre are not inevitable'

The Italian Peace Committee has issued an appeal to the people which says:

'The growing pressure of warlike circles to get the French and Italian Parliaments to decide on German rearmament through the ratification of the London and Paris Agreements is today seen in all its gravity in the light of the last decisions of the Atlantic Council clearly basing its policy and strategy on the use of atomic and thermonuclear weapons. This pressure and these decisions are aimed at sharply arresting the trend towards a relaxation of international tension.

'The great campaign for the Stockholm Appeal which was successful in preventing the use of atomic weapons in Korea and Indo-China and the inevitable extension of these conflicts; the Italian Chamber of Deputies' vote against atomic and thermonuclear weapons; the victorious result of the campaign against E.D.C.; the first results of the campaign against the London and Paris Agreements ratified by the French National Assembly with less than half the Deputies voting for ratification — all this proves that the action of the peoples can foil the nefarious plans of the supporters of German rearmament and of atomic massacre.

'German rearmament and atomic massacre are not inevitable.

'It is necessary everywhere to strengthen and consolidate the action of all sections of the Peace Movement. Let the Peace Committees meet in every town, village and place of work! Form thousands of new committees to discuss and explain to the public the urgent tasks of the moment, to take decisions and new hard-hitting action against German rearmament and the threat of atomic massacre and to strengthen their collaboration with the new forces which are now joining the struggle for peace.'

...s against ...e Atomic Menace

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'YOU CANNOT SERVE TWO MASTERS'

This leaflet against the H bomb has been published by a group of German Protestant ministers.

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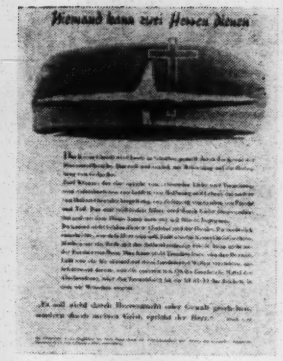

GERMANY • 'We want general disarmament'

Professor Walther Friedrich, President of the German Academy of Sciences and President of the German Peace Council, has made an appeal from which we take the following passages:

'How can general disarmament be achieved through the rearmament of Western Germany without starting an accelerated armaments race on the part of all States? Yet such an armaments race can only lead to unleashing an atomic war in the heart of Europe — an atomic war the consequences of which are all too clear to me as a research physicist who knows the destructive power of atomic weapons.

'In letters from West Germany we of the German Peace Council are reproached for opposing only the rearming of the Federal Republic, while having no objections to the rearmament of the German Democratic Republic. That is not true. We want no rearmament either in the East or in the West, but general disarmament and the banning of all weapons of mass destruction. This is clear from the material published by our Movement. Nor can it be denied that the Government and the People's Chamber have several times made Bonn the offer to conclude an agreement on the police forces in the two German States. This agreement would settle the size of the armed forces, the places where they will be stationed and the kind of arms they will carry.

'This offer was rejected in the same way as the Soviet Government's proposal that the two parts of Germany should be kept outside any alliance of a military character, that guarantees should de given against the revival of aggressive militarism, and that preparations should then be made for the reunification of the two parts of Germany through free elections.'

• Mass Action against Remilitarisation

Associated Press announces that the Social Democratic campaign against the London and Paris agreements has begun in more than a hundred towns of West Germany. It began with a large-scale poster campaign; the posters show the ghostly ruins of houses rising against a blood-red horizon. In the foreground rise, like a warning, the remains of a wall in the shape of a man with one leg amputated. The posters bear the inscription: 'Never again! So negotiate!'

The Social Democratic Party's campaign is to grow from week to week until the second and third readings of the bill ratifying the Paris Agreements. A total of approximately 6,000 demonstrations are planned to take place in every locality of any importance in the Federal Republic.

• Physicists Appeal to All their Colleagues

'We physicists know that the use of the hydrogen bomb during a war would mean the end of civilisation.

'We therefore raise our voice to defend all that man's science and work have created, all that we are attached to and love.

'We call on all physicists to realise their responsibility for the results of their work; we call on them to enlighten all men and women on the consequences of the misuse of science and to unite with all peace-loving people throughout the world to force the banning of the atomic weapon.'

The signatories of the appeal are:

Prof. Seeliger of Griefswald, Prof. Möglich of Berlin, Prof. Rompe of Berlin and Prof. Frühauf of Dresden, all National Prize winners; Prof. Görlich of Jena, Prof. Kunze of Rostock, Prof. Schütz of Jena, Prof. Bewilogua of Berlin, Prof. Holzmüller of Leipzig, Prof. Schmellenmeier of Potsdam and Prof. Büchner of Berlin.

WHAT THE MAYORS OF BOMBED CITIES ARE SAYING . . .

The Mayor of Hiroshima has sent a letter to the mayors of certain other great cities asking them to support the Japanese people in their aspirations for a lasting peace. Mr. Adolf Svoboda, Mayor of Prague, says in his reply:

'The peoples of the whole world have the same interests.'

In his reply, Mr. N. I. Smirnov, Chairman of the Leningrad City Soviet, says:

'We wholeheartedly welcome your appeal and look upon the struggle for the banning of atomic and thermonuclear weapons and for world peace as our most urgent task.'

Early in January Mr. Baernreuther, Social Democratic Mayor of Nuremberg, stated before the City Council:

'Together with the mayors of Hiroshima, Dresden, Stalingrad and Coventry, and all who have known the fury of war, we declare that peace must be preserved. Peace means security for all.'

Mr. George Albrecht, President of the Warsaw City Council, writes in his reply to the Mayor of Hiroshima:

'We believe that representatives of Hiroshima, Warsaw and others of the cities that suffered most destruction during the Second World War should jointly initiate some new action for the banning of weapons of mass destruction.'

GREAT BRITAIN

A petition bearing more than 500,000 signatures was handed in to No. 10 Downing Street on December 31 by a deputation led by the Rev. Dr. Donald Soper, President of the Methodist Church in Great Britain.

The signatories ask the British Government to take the initiative in calling a three power conference (U.S.A., U.S.S.R. and Great Britain) to reach agreement on the banning of the A and H bombs and the controlled reduction of armaments.

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In a B.B.C. talk on 'The hydrogen bomb and the peril to mankind' Mr. Bertrand Russell, the British philosopher, said:

'...if the issues between East and West are to be decided in any manner that can give any possible satisfaction to anybody, whether Communist or anti-Communist, whether Asian or European or American, whether white or black, then these issues must not be decided by war...'

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Poland

A group of eminent Polish intellectuals have issued a statement from which we give the following extracts:

'The sanction given to atomic war and preparations for such a war by the last session of the N.A.T.O. Council has aroused profound indignation...

'We make this appeal to you, artists, writers and scientists of the Western States: "Stay the hand of those who want war!"'

The signatories of the appeal include:

Professor Jan Dembowski, President of the Polish Academy of Sciences; Professor Leopold Infeld, Professor of Physics at Warsaw University and Mr. Kasimierz Kuratowski, Director of the State Mathematical Institute.

Hungary

A meeting of doctors organised by the Peace Committee of the fifth district of Budapest has adopted the following appeal:

'We who strive every day to protect peoples' lives from danger and to heal cannot allow millions of men and women to perish through the use of weapons of mass destruction to serve the interests of those who want war.'

Switzerland

By 57 votes to 38 the Grand Council of the Republic and Canton of Neuchâtel has approved a motion asking the Swiss Government 'to make all the necessary approaches to foreign governments for the ending of thermonuclear explosions and for the general limitation of armaments'.

Uruguay

The news of the forthcoming A and H bomb tests in the South Atlantic and the Antarctic has caused grave anxiety in Uruguay. The Uruguayan Peace Committee has warned public opinion of the dangers of such tests and is planning to launch a great campaign against weapons of mass destruction.

ALL INDIA CONGRESS FOR PEACE AND ASIAN SOLIDARITY

An interview with Mr. Jean Laffitte, General Secretary of the World Council of Peace

The All India Congress for Peace and Asian Solidarity was held in Madras from December 30 to January 2 last.

The following is the text of an interview with Mr. Jean Laffitte, General Secretary of the World Council of Peace, on his return from this important Congress where he represented the World Council.

For four days you took part in the All India Congress for Peace and Asian Solidarity. What are your impressions of the Congress?

That it was a great Congress, both from the point of view of the number of delegates that attended it and the ideas they expressed. But to describe it in a word, I would say that it was above all a working Congress.

Nearly 1,500 delegates from all the States of India took part in the proceedings. They came from Bengal and Travancore-Cochin, from Hyderabad and Pepsu, from Orissa and Bombay.

A Reception Committee of 200 persons with Shri P.M. Krishmaswaniyer as its Chairmen welcomed the delegates who represented the various sections of Indian society and Indian political and religious opinion in all their diversity.

Dr. Saifuddin Kitchlew chaired the Congress and gave the opening address. Important reports were presented by Sir Sahib Singh Sokhey F.R.S.; Pandit Sunderlal, writer; Shri J.C. Kumarappa, economist; Professor D.D. Kosambi; Mulk Raj Anand, the writer and by Shri Romesh Chandra.

The Congress elected a new All India Peace Council of 350 members. Dr. Kitchlew was re-elected President and 16 Vice-Presidents and a Secretariat of five were also elected.

A number of important resolutions were adopted. What do you think of the decisions reached?

The Congress very forcefully expressed the solidarity of the Asian peoples and gave its support to the five peace principles enunciated in the agreements recently concluded between the Republic of India and the People's Republic of China. It also supported the position of the World Council of Peace on the settlement of major international issues such as the atomic threat and the setting up of military blocs in Europe and Asia, which keep the world divided and maintain international tension. It took important decisions on the organisation of the Movement and on the development of cultural work. Lastly, it welcomed the proposal of the World Council of Peace to call a World Assembly of Representatives of the Forces of Peace and decided that the Indian Peace Movement would make its contribution to the success of the Assembly.

On the evening of January 2 a mass rally of 120,000 people was held in Madras to mark the conclusion of the Congress.

Mr. Jean Laffitte, General Secretary of the World Council of Peace, pointed out that the vast gathering was an unmistakable demonstration of the peace sentiments of the Indian people. The formation of S.E.A.T.O. had brought the threat of war to the very doorstep of Asia, he said, adding that in continuing their efforts for peace the Indian people would ensure the security not only of Asia but of the whole world.

What was your most striking impression of your stay in India?

One cannot fail to be greatly impressed by the whole Indian people's attachment to the cause of peace. In every town and village I visited I met fishermen, workers, peasants, merchants and intellectuals and I was struck by their love for peace and their profound desire to arrest the war dangers that menace the world.

For nearly a week the city of Madras was full of delegates who could be picked out by the large badge which they wore showing Picasso's dove in the centre of a blaze of colour. Every evening the delegates and the many guests were entertained by artistic performances in which some of the best-known and most popular artists in India took part. The last of these was nothing less than a festival of Indian song and dance, music and drama. It was watched by 8,000 people among whom were the group of Chinese artists invited by the Indian Government and who happened to be in Madras at the time.

After the Congress a procession two miles long wound through the streets to the sound of drums and trumpets; it was gay with the white robes of the men, the many-coloured saris of the women, and a forest of the blue banners of the Peace Movement waved above their heads. At its head were an elephant and chariots drawn by flower-bedecked bullocks. Everywhere it was enthusiastically welcomed by the people. The procession ended in a monster open-air meeting on the shore of the Indian Ocean in which 120,000 people took part.

The entire press gave daily reports on the proceedings of the Congress and the different demonstrations held. Members of Congress and of the State Parliaments of different parties, scientists and religious figures, artists and local and regional organisations sent messages of support.

I am happy that I was able to bring to this Congress and to the Indian Peace Movement, in the full flood of its development, a message of solidarity from the Peace Movements in the other parts of the world, together with greetings from the World Council of Peace.

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Our readers will find on page 7 the text of the resolution adopted by the All India Congress for Peace and Asian Solidarity on the calling of the World Assembly of Representatives of the Forces of Peace. We shall give further details on the proceedings and decisions of this important Congress in a future issue.

U. S. A.: Disarmament and Peaceful Co-existence

Petition in DETROIT

Federated Press reports that ministers of religion in Detroit have launched a petition which is to be submitted to President Eisenhower.

The petition demands the abolition of weapons of mass destruction as a first step towards general disarmament, the use of the resources thus freed for the improvement of living conditions... and a United States contribution to the peaceful co-existence of all states irrespective of their social system.

The committee of churchmen who are organising this campaign intend to collect several million signatures.

REGIONAL CONFERENCES IN THE LEBANON

The Lebanese Peace Movement has launched a great preparatory campaign for its Second National Congress. As part of the preparations regional conferences were held in Tripoli and Bekah. The following is a report on these two conferences:

Tripoli, Capital of North Lebanon

The conference was attended by delegates and public figures of differing political viewpoints. It sent messages of support to the people of Algeria and the other peoples of the Magrheb, whose struggle for independence and against acts of violence is a contribution to the struggle against the war plans in North Africa. Messages were also sent to the peoples of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan and Iran in their struggle against plans for war and aggression.

The conference adopted an appeal to the Lebanese people and to public figures and organisations opposed to the war plans, asking them to oppose the projected strategic road (international highway) which the Americans want to construct from Beirut to the Persian Gulf and to demand of the Lebanese Government that it give up any idea of taking part in this aggressive undertaking.

Bekah

The Bekah conference was held on December 19 and it was attended by 70 delegates from 40 towns and villages and by 30 observers. Municipal councillors and public figures of various political viewpoints were also present.

Two reports were then presented on

1) The activity of the Peace Movement in Bekah since 1949, its successes and the possibilities that exist for broadening it.

2) The importance of economic exchanges, on a footing of equality and mutual respect, for the economic life of the Lebanese people.

The Archbishop of Zahbé and Haalbek and Sheikh Abdullah Alaili sent greetings to the conference. Dr. Rashid Matuk, on behalf of the National Committee, spoke on the aims of the Peace Movement and its successes throughout the world.

Resolutions condemning imperialist interference, the projected strategic highway and the military pacts which threaten the security of this part of the world were adopted.

The Events in Costa Rica

We pointed out in our issue of October 1, 1954 the important campaign being conducted by the Costa Rican Peace Movement for the lessening of the tension in the relations between the various countries of Central America. Thousands of postcards were at that time sent to the President of the Republic asking that the principle of non-intervention in international relations should be strictly observed. The campaign included the intensive collection of signatures to a text addressed to the United Nations. It said:

'We urgently beg the United Nations to intervene (*in the differences between the states of Central America Ed.*) and demand that the principle of non-intervention contained in Para. 7 of Art. 2 of the Charter be respected, and to facilitate negotiations for the consolidation of peace in Central America.'

At the Stockholm session of the World Council of Peace, Mrs. Emilia Prieto Lugores, President of the Costa Rican Peace Committee, drew the Council's attention to the threat of conflict hanging over Central America.

Then last November the Cuban Peace Committee published statements warning public opinion of the serious turn that could be taken by the differences between the governments of Costa Rica and Nicaragua and condemning United States interference in the conflict. After affirming the principle of national sovereignty, demanding negotiations in any case of a difference between nations, and protesting against foreign intervention in any form in the internal affairs of a country, the Cuban Peace Committee concluded in these words:

'The countries of Latin America must not drift into conflicts and differences which would be full of danger. Today, more than ever, they must unite in defence of their liberty and sovereignty, their free economic development and progress, and in the struggle for peace.'

The events that have arisen in Central America in this month of January have fully confirmed the correctness of these predictions of the Costa Rican and Cuban Peace Movements.

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Activities of the Argentine Peace Movement

Surrounded by the growing sympathy of public opinion, the Argentine Peace Movement is intensifying its activity. An important meeting of its National Council was held in November, attended by 50 members, delegates from the provinces and guests.

On December 19th the Second Conference of the Peace Movement in Buenos Aires took place, while a similar conference was held in the province of Cordoba.

National leaders attended both these meetings, in accordance with a vast plan of organisation which stipulates that they should periodically visit the different parts of the country, organising regional meetings and helping to set up new peace committees or to strengthen those that already exist.

The various activities of the Movement are now being directed towards the preparation of the World Assembly of Representatives of the Peace Forces. The coming months will see the holding of many local assemblies for the election of a delegation representing all sections of Argentine opinion.

Of the current campaigns (1) it is necessary to make particular mention of that demanding an Argentine peace policy and an Argentine peace economy, and the campaign for the defence the Argentine oil industry, which is in danger of passing under foreign control. The signatories of the appeal for this latter campaign include the leaders of various political parties, members of the provincial assemblies and of the national Parliament, writers, delegates to the Radical Party Convention, leaders of youth organisations and others, many of whom are far from the Peace Movement.

In addition, a special effort is being made to improve publicity work. In addition to the periodical *Por la Paz* and the other regular organs of the Movement, the following have been published: the speeches of Mrs. Maria Rosa Oliver and Mr. Garcia Iturraspe at the national conference; a special pamphlet on the consequences of the war policy in Argentina and Latin America; two pamphlets on the dangers of German rearmament and for the banning of A and H bombs; and wall tableaux in support of the campaign for the defence of Argentine oil.

(1) The campaigns against German rearmament and for the banning of weapons of mass destruction are the subject of a more detailed article in this same bulletin.

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GUATEMALA:

Statement by President of National Peace Committee

Following last summer's events in Guatemala, Mr. Cruz Franco, barrister, President of the National Peace Committee, was imprisoned for a number of months and then brought before a tribunal which, as a result of the Guatemalan people's growing attachment to peace, has just acquitted him.

Mr. Cruz Franco defended his case himself. We take the following passage from his plea:

'As personifying our country's interest in the maintenance of world peace the National Peace Committee charged me, in June 1952, with the honourable task of being its President. It had taken into account my pacifist antecedents, my devotion to my country and other qualifications which kept me apart from sectarian struggles and partisan activities which have no place in the defence of peace for the happiness of all men and women.

'To love peace, which is a cause common to all mankind, and to banish war, which is a hell for all people, is a lofty mission which merits respect and not punishment.

'But if that is the shameful motive for my detention then I shall live and die in prison — a glorious epilogue to a life devoted to the cause of justice, either in dispensing it as a judge, in serving it as a barrister, or in defending it as a man and a citizen.'

Preparations for Celebrations of Great Figures of World Culture

Is there a country in which the works of Andersen have not been avidly read by several generations of children? The characters in his Tales have been given citizen rights in all parts of the world and by all peoples.

It is for this reason that the appeal of the World Council of Peace for the commemoration of the 150th anniversary of this genius of children's literature has been welcomed everywhere. Children and grown-ups are getting ready to honour the author of the famous *Fairy Tales*. In his own country, Denmark, the National Peace Committee has examined the programme of events with particular care and a committee has been appointed to study the various suggestions which have so far been made and to put forward others. The proposals under examination include the organisation of trips to Denmark by children of various nationalities to visit the Andersen museum and the places where he lived and worked.

For next April the Danish Government is organising celebrations in which Danish intellectuals will collaborate. These celebrations are to include a festival in Andersen's native town, Odense, the adaptation of some of his tales for the stage and the issue of a series of stamps.

In various countries, too, programmes are being drawn up for the commemoration of the other great figures of world culture proposed by the World Council of Peace: Montesquieu, Schiller, Mickiewicz, Cervantes and Whitman.

In France, writers, philosophers and sociologists will take part in the various events to be held in honour of Montesquieu, the author of *L'Esprit des Lois*.

In Czechoslovakia, Montesquieu will be commemorated at memorial meetings, lectures, evenings devoted to the reading of his works, and so on, which will be held in Prague, Bratislava and the other main towns. These events are being organised by the Ministry of Culture, the Peace Committee, the Law Faculty of Prague University, the Law Section of the Academy of Sciences, the Czechoslovak Lawyers' Association and the Society for the Diffusion of Political and Scientific Knowledge.

In Germany, the main events in honour of the 150th anniversary of the death of Schiller include a memorial meeting to be held in Jena on May 14 at which the great writer Thomas Mann will speak. The Schiller celebrations are being organised by the Schiller Committee 1955 whose members include famous literary, artistic and scientific figures in Germany. A number of organisations are also collaborating: the 'Schiller Stiftung' (Schiller Fund for the encouragement of young writers); the Marbach-Stuttgart Society of Friends of Schiller, the Democratic Cultural Union of Germany and the Standing Committee of the German Cultural Congress.

SUPPORT FOR PAUL ROBESON

In a letter to the 'Provisional Committee to restore Paul Robeson's passport', Professor Josef Skupa, director of the famous Puppet Theatre in Prague, writes:

'At a time when throughout the world people are opening their arms to embrace each other in peace and when through the medium of cultural exchanges, they are meeting each other in joyous festivals of the arts of all peoples, we cannot understand that in the country of Franklin, Washington and Roosevelt an artist should be refused the right to do honour to his people through his art.

'We appeal to you to take action so that Paul Robeson may once again sing of man's love for man throughout the world.'

MONTESQUIEU

Two hundred years ago, on February 10, 1755, the illustrious sociologist and writer Montesquieu died. He had been almost blind for a number of years, though this did not prevent him from continuing his work, especially *L'Esprit des Lois*, the fruit of twenty years of labour — for he was an indefatigable worker. 'I should have burned it a thousand times', he said during his last days, 'if I had not thought that it is fine thing to make onseself useful to mankind until one's last breath . . .' Thus does he define the goal of his unremitting labour. Defending *L'Esprit des Lois* before the critics of the Sorbonne and of the Index Commission, he stated: 'Therein you will find only love of good, love of peace and of the happiness of men.'

Charles de Secondat, Baron of Brède and of Montesquieu, belonged to the group of clear-minded men who made the 18th century the 'philosophers' century' and the 'age of reason'. Each in his degree, they were laying the ground for the great events that were to take place in France at the end of the 18th century and to spread like wildfire through the world. Montesquieu's first works, written between 1718 and 1721, are the *Discourse on the Cause of Echoes*, *On the Functioning of the Renal Glands*, *On the Cause of the Weight of Bodies*, and *Observations on Natural History*. They give expression to the disquiet of his time when mankind was asserting itself, when the scientific attitude was spreading and when the will to fully understand nature and the universe was making itself felt. Mediaeval metaphysics was beginning to be driven out of its positions. The old absolutism was being shaken by the upthrust of new social forces, which, however, did not all want deep-going changes in the structure of society. Certain sections only wanted to introduce some reforms to limit the chaos and abuses of the feudal system. This was Montesquieu's line. But his canny prudence could not prevent him from helping to weaken the old order of things. In his *Persian Letters* (1721) he subjects social, political, religious and literary customs to a virulent satire. It is not by chance that his book 'sold like hot cakes'. The same severity of criticism is not to be found in his subsequent great works, *Reflections on the Causes of the Greatness and Decadence of the Romans* (1734) and *L'Esprit des Lois* (1750); so well received was the latter work that in two years it went through 22 editions. Modern sociology makes its début in these works. Instead of attributing the laws to divine command, they are drawn from experience, and social relations are seen as depending on the natural conditions in each country. One of his biographers could say: 'Montesquieu has taken politics out of the hands of the church. And better still, he has helped to make politics a science.' Some of his ideas inspired the members of the Constituent Assembly and were implemented in some of the state's later institutions.

In relation to the principal concerns of our time, it is especially appropriate to stress Montesquieu's humanist ideas, his interest in progress, his refusal to consider war as a means of eradicating differences between states: 'It is not the wish of the citizen to see his homeland devouring everyone else's homeland.' 'A prince thinks that he will be greater by the ruin of a neighbouring country. On the contrary. Such is the situation in Europe that France needs Poland and Muscovy to prosper . . .'

A staunch defender of science, he considered that it should not be used for purposes of violence. In our atomic era his penetrating observations echo like a prophecy: '*I fear that someone will ultimately discover some secret which will provide a quicker way of annihilating men and destroying entire peoples and nations.*' But Montesquieu gave a very pertinent answer: 'If a fatal invention were to be discovered, it would soon be prohibited by international law and the discovery would be buried by the unanimous consent of the nations.' So must it be.

Second Soviet Writers' Congress

Seven hundred and eighty Soviet delegates from all the Republics and territories of the Soviet Union met in Moscow from December 16 to 23 to discuss the problems of creative literature. The discussion was also followed by 100 foreign writers from 39 countries.

Through the number of reports presented, the importance of the subjects treated and the scope of the discussion, the Congress rapidly became more than a mere national event — became, indeed, a debate of world-wide interest. The constant reference to the great masters of various foreign literatures made it an authentic exchange of cultural values in the light of which the problems of Soviet literature had to be studied.

In the sphere of cultural relations Congress discussed a problem of the highest interest for all writers — that of translation. Is it possible to translate poetry or prose into a foreign language without spoiling the beauty of the original? The Soviet writers gave an affirmative answer to this question, provided that translation becomes, as Mr. Tikhonov said, 'an act of friendship between two writers', that is, between author and translator.

Another very important point was Nikolai Tikhonov's report on the world's progressive literature. The translation of its main works into the various languages of the Soviet Union has consistently enriched cultural exchanges between East and West.

From beginning to end of the Congress, moreover, it was clearly stated that Soviet literature is always at the service of peace, whether it be children's literature, literature for adolescents, film scripts or literature in general.

As we have already pointed out in a previous number, the Second Soviet Writers' Congress gave its full support to the World Congress of Writers which it is proposed to hold this year.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON SCIENTIFIC FILMS

250 scientific films from various countries presented

An International Congress on Scientific Films was recently held in Paris. At this Congress the International Association for Scientific Films re-elected its Council whose members are: Mr. Jean Painleve (France), President; Professor Ponzo (Italy) and Professor Sdan (U.S.S.R.), Vice-Presidents; and representatives of the following 12 nations: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, France, Great Britain, Holland, Italy, Poland, the Soviet Union, West Germany and Uruguay.

FURTHER CELEBRATIONS OF THE CULTURAL ANNIVERSARIES OF 1954

In 1954, the anniversaries of Aristophanes, Antonin Dvorak, Henry Fielding and Anton Chekhov were commemorated in many countries and in various ways, as reported in these pages. Even in the last weeks of 1954 there were many such celebrations — a sign of the interest they have created in all circles and in all countries.

In Chile, the anniversary of Aristophanes' birth was commemorated at the University by a lecture given by Mr. Juan de Luigi, literary critic. At this same meeting Mr. Ruben Sotoconil spoke of Henry Fielding and Mr. Domingo Piga dealt with the life and work of Chekhov.

A successful artistic and literary evening was held in Havana, the capital of Cuba, in the middle of December. After a speech by Dr. Elias Entralgo Y Vallina, President of the Cuban Peace Committee, Mr. Marcos Behmaras gave a lecture on the life and work of Fielding, Dr. Juan Blanco on Antonin Dvorak, Dr. Gregorio Ortega on Chekhov and Dr. Gaspar J. Garcia Gallo on Aristophanes.

The second part of the programme included a short recital of Dvorak's music and a performance of one of Chekhov's one-act plays, *The Birthday*, by the Farseros company.

ARISTOPHANES

The Polish Peace Committee and the Polish PEN Club organised a memorial meeting in Warsaw at which the President of the PEN Club, Mr. Jan Parandowski, gave a talk on the life and work of the great Greek dramatist. The artistic part of the programme included extracts from *The Birds* and *The Peace*.

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The Academy of Sciences of the Soviet Socialist Republic of Latvia held a memorial meeting on the evening of December 27, 1954 which was attended by intellectuals, teachers, artists and writers. The opening speech was made by Professor Peive, President of the Academy and President of the Latvian Peace Committee. The evening ended with a presentation of extracts from the work of Aristophanes.

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An exhibition of various editions of the works of Aristophanes, together with essays and monographs on his work, was opened in Leningrad on December 22. The Soviet editions include a volume entitled *The Plays of Aristophanes* which contains *The Wasps, The Birds*, and others of his comedies, and his complete works in several volumes.

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In Bucharest, Academician Constantin Balmus gave a talk on the life and work of Aristophanes to a large audience, followed by a performance of an extract from *The Peace* by a group of students from the I.L. Caragiale Drama Institute. Similar events were held in other Rumanian towns such as Jassy, where a lecture on 'The Problem of Peace in the Plays of Aristophanes' was given at the Faculty of Philology.

DVORAK

The Academy of the People's Republic of Rumania held a special session at which the composer Mihail Andrico gave a talk on the great Czech musician. There was also a memorial evening in Bucharest at which the composer Sabin Dragoi gave a lecture; this was followed by a short concert of Dvorak's compositions by the soloists of the State Philharmonic Society. The life of the composer was illustrated by a large number of photographs arranged in the form of an exhibition in the hall.

Similar exhibitions and concerts, together with the showing of slides, were organised in the principal towns of the country. At Timisoara, for example, there was a public meeting at which the composer Russu Nicolae gave a talk and the symphony 'From the New World' was performed.

FIELDING

In Great Britain, the Birmingham Peace Committee organised a meeting in honour of Fielding on December 13 last.

In Rumania, Fielding's works were published and memorial meetings were held throughout the country. In Bucharest, the writer Mihnea Gheorghiu gave a talk on Fielding which was followed by a reading of an extract from *Tom Jones* by the popular artist Forly Eterle.

CHEKHOV

The Delhi Cultural Committee of the All India Peace Council staged three one-act plays by Chekhov: *The Bear, The Proposal* and *The Anniversary* with the collaboration of local drama associations such as the Little Theatre Group and the Delhi Art Theatre. The public and the press gave these performances a warm welcome.

In Calcutta, the Cultural Sub-Committee of the West Bengal Peace Council held a very successful public meeting in which some of the most distinguished writers of West Bengal participated. A Bengali version of one of Chekhov's short plays, *A Tragedian in Spite of Himself*, was performed.

With *Three Sisters* and *Martyrs* running at the Theatre de l'Oeuvre and the Theatre de Poche respectively, Chekhov continues to be seen on the Parisian stage.

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The anniversaries of other great cultural figures have also given rise to important events.

The Indian public gave a warm welcome to the celebration of the anniversary of Swami Haridas, the founder of Indian music. The musician Rahimuddin Dagar, a celebrated exponent of the music of Swami Haridas, gave a recital and Mr. Dilip Chand Vedi lectured on the life and work of the composer.

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The centenary of the birth of the Argentine scientist, Florentino Ameghino, was celebrated at a special session of the Academy of the People's Republic of Rumania. Professor Alexandru Codarcea stressed Ameghino's exceptional contribution to palaeontology and anthropology.

International Speakers at Vienna Rally

In Vienna on January 19 was held the first meeting of the world signature campaign for the Vienna Appeal. An hour and a half after the Bureau of the World Council of Peace had adopted this historic appeal to the whole of mankind asking it to oppose the danger of atomic war, eminent members of the World Council of Peace informed the people of Vienna of the launching of the Appeal at the Vargas Dreherpark. This is one the biggest halls in Vienna and it was packed to the doors.

Professor Brandweiner, President of the Austrian Peace Council, introduced the speakers, who came from eight countries.

The first speaker, Mrs. Isabelle Blume, member of the Secretariat of the World Council of Peace, stressed the importance of the signature campaign which was just beginning for the prevention of atomic war. Pandit Sundarlal, Vice-President of the All India Peace Council, brought greetings from the Indian people and made a great impression. Mr. D.N. Pritt Q.C. of Great Britain spoke in German (as did Mrs. Isabelle Blume) on the work of the Peace Movement in the United Kingdom. The audience were deeply interested in the speech of Professor Kaoru Yasui who described the terrible sufferings of the people of Hiroshima and Nagasaki as a result of atomic bombing and the effects of the test explosions of the hydrogen bomb at Bikini. Professor Leopold Infeld, who also spoke in German, gave a physicist's view of the terrible prospects held in store by an atomic war. The audience welcomed with extraordinary enthusiasm the speech of Dr. Kuo Mo-jo, Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the First National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China. (Dr. Kuo Mo-jo translated his own speech into German.) He brought a message of greetings from the great Chinese people who are exerting all their strength on the side of the peace camp. The speech of the Soviet dramatist Alexander Korneichuk was full of confidence in the strength of the peoples who can bring to nought the plans of those who are preparing for atomic war. This imposing demonstration of international solidarity ended with the speech of Mr. Erwin Eckert, member of the Provincial Parliament of Baden-Württemberg in West Germany, which made a great impression on the audience.

What the Press is Saying . . .

Extract from the December 23 issue of the *New York Times*

'No Distinction Possible between Strategic and Tactical Weapons,' says Mr. Hanson Baldwin.

'Mr. Dulles' somewhat arbitrary distinction between the tactical and strategic use of atomic arms, his policy of relying particularly in Southeast Asia on the deterrent effect of mobile sea and air striking forces, his assertion that the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation's decision to base its defence on atomic arms insured the security of Western Europe. have raised far more questions than they answered . . .

'When is a tactical atomic weapon a strategic weapon; how do you differentiate between a weapon used against troops in the field and weapons of "mass devastation"?

'Does not Mr. Dulles know that the hydrogen bomb has been urged as a tactical weapon? Can such a weapon, which may poison an area of 4,000 to 10,000 square miles by radioactive "fall-out", be termed a tactical weapon? Is a "Corporal" guided missile with an atomic warhead and a range of 100 miles a "tactical" weapon? . . .

'In other words, if we commit ourselves to the tactical use of atomic weapons do we not open the door to their unlimited use everywhere?'

Extract from an editorial in the December 14 issue of *Politiken* (Denmark)

'They are now speaking of "tactical" atomic weapons for direct use against the armed forces of the enemy: little bombs, artillery shells, rockets. "Little" arms, yet which have a terrifying power. They would perhaps succeed in clearing the enemy out of a zone of operations but they would also annihilate thousands of civilians. We must face the possibility that armies will progressively become more and more "atomic", that gradually even rifle bullets will perhaps become small atom bombs. Where then is the limit between what one can and what one cannot permit oneself?

'During the recent military manoeuvres in Germany there was a dummy attack with a tactical atomic bomb on a bridgehead occupied by the enemy. It was estimated that the whole enemy force of 3,000 men had been wiped out — together with 50,000 civilians. So how many survivors would there be in a zone of operations if atomic weapons were used?'

Extract from an article by Mr. M. Duverger in the January 4 number of *Le Monde*

'On Christmas Eve the Deputies expressed their own and their constituents' deep desire — they rejected the rearming of one half of Germany. On New Year's Eve the Assembly bowed to the brutal determination of our Anglo-Saxon allies and sacrified French public opinion to the maintenance of the Atlantic Pact . . .

'We need hardly mention the frightful paradox of the victors of 1945, at that time absolutely determined to put an end to German militarism once and for all, today imposing on the citizens of West Germany an army they don't want. For all witnesses agree on the strength of the German people's opposition to the rearmament plans . . .

'The switchover of a few votes in Parliament may be enough for taking a legal decision, but it cannot change public opinion and the profound feelings of the nation.'

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February 4, 1955

M. Jean Laffitte
World Peace Council
Estate-Haus
Mollwald-Platz 5
Vienna 4, Austria

Dear M. Laffitte:

I sent you the other day a copy of the speech recently made by General Douglass MacArthur, which is the best attack on war that any American general ever made. It is so devastating that it is being suppressed here in America.

I sent you a copy to suggest that it be distributed all over the world, in all languages.

I am afraid that it may not reach you. If it does not, you can secure a copy. It was printed January 27th in both the HERALD TRIBUNE and THE NEW YORK TIMES, although suppressed in later editions.

If you cannot get a copy, cable me and I will try again.

I have sent a copy also to Ivor Montagu.

Very sincerely yours,

W.E.B. Du Bois

DB:lh